Dear Brethren

On behalf of the Young Men's Missionary Society of Mercer University, we are authorized to correspond with other similar institutions and request of them information as to the plans which they have adopted, and found efficient for accomplishing their proposed enterprises.

And permit us, brethren, to assure you that for such knowledge as you may afford us we will be most sincerely grateful. We would like for you to send us a catalogue or any other document, which is at your disposal, showing the methods according to which you have proceeded in gaining information and rendering your efforts beneficial to others. If you have a Library please inform us, what is the character of your books? And where, and how do you obtain them? If you have a Museum how did you proceed in establishing it? And from whence & how do you procure Specimens? Do you correspond with foreign Missionaries & distant Societies? How often do you hold your stated meetings? What questions or subjects do you discuss? And what other means do you use to make your deliberations & efforts interesting, instructive and efficient?

Any information on these points and others which your experience has proved to be beneficial will be, to us most acceptable.

In Christian Love, J. B. Earle
J. B. Cooper } Committee.

P. S. Please address the Com. at Penfield Georgia.

April 3rd 1857.